

January 2, 1939

Dear Children:

The first thing I'm doing is to get this off to an early start. I'm glad to begin again. This new year may be pretty interesting but it will have to step right lively to keep up with past years. Of course I'm going to try to keep pace with the times.

I had a right grand Xmas. The funniest thing was my telephone call to Va. I'm not often sorry for myself, but I was Xmas Eve - what with everybody at home - so I tried to call Ray & Va. Between seven and nine they didn't answer. From nine to twelve I was where there wasn't a phone. So I didn't get them until twelve. Va. answered and I ran out of talk after the first half minute. And then I asked - of all things - "Are the boys there?" One good thing I got from the call was that Gin was better and wouldn't be sick

again. I guess you all know by now that her long fainting spells were caused by gas which was escaping from the hot water tank in the kitchen. It's a great wonder she hadn't really passed out. Lettie made the discovery. I think we ought to work out a system of awards for any one who does something for the benefit and happiness of the whole family. I appoint Eleanor and Ed to work on it.

My suggestion would be to make it a badge or pin of some kind. Then set up reasons for receiving it. Eleanor - of course will keep all records. Don't make it too easy. What do you think about it?

Eleanor and Ray seem on top with luck this year. She gets to go to Columbia on a salary and he got a great big bonus. Jack too - reached his 'ultimates' when he cracked the Saturday Evening Post and the O'Brien collection. Joe may get

a little corner on the luck before it's over.

No small part of my Xmas was spent with Joe at Columbus. We just gabbed and gabbed. It certainly was an intellectual gathering. Phi Beta Kappa keeps flashed on all their stomachs. When some of them asked me to join ~~at~~, I said, 'No thanks I'm not eligible. I did understand most of the lecture Joe took me to. He picked out an easy one.

I got home in time for a New Years party at Arch and Peg Dodd's. Arch cooked real Italian spaghetti. There were twelve of us. Two of the new fry and their ~~wives~~ wives and Hugh and Mary. Hugh is having trouble coming down off his high horse since the election went Republican. His Foresman uncle - Scotts - Foresman publishing Co - sent a thousand dollars for Xmas. It seems that they

must give away some to avoid a
government tax on income. Seems
like a good law to me.

Althea was here Xmas. She and
Odille were working on a book. Odille
was well pleased to have something to do
in the house since we've had real
storming winter weather - lots of snow
and ice. My car hasn't been out
for a week or more.

The very best wish I can think
of for me is that this would get back
around by Feb. 2. And I hope to see
you all with the next few months.

Miss Jeffries you too are on that
committee of honor awards. You'll know
best when it's deserved because you
can see us more subjectively than
any one else.

With much love,

Ruby

Ruby, tell us El's address in
New York, or El, you tell us
if you get this.

NORTH TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

DENTON, TEXAS



DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

J. W. PENDER
S. B. McALISTER
JOE M. RAY

January 13, 1939

Friday the Thirteenth

Dear Folks:

I am afraid that I won't have time to write a long letter for ~~the Robin this time, but the work is shaping up so that I won't have~~ much time for it. Most of the Robin is old, anyway, since I have seen all of you except Eleanor since the letters were written. Ruby wrote later, of course, but nothing much new had happened since I saw her.

El, I am so glad you are going to get to go to New York. I think you will like it, although you mustn't let the wickedness of the big city overshadow all the interesting things that you would like to see and do. I wish Jettie and I could come up to see you while you are there, but we have just barged around so much lately that I am afraid we are going to have to stay at home for some time to come.

It was such a pleasure to be with all of you Christmas. The longer I live, the more convinced I am that these Rays have got something. At any rate, I'll bet there's not a grown man anywhere that takes more pride in and gets more pleasure out of his family than I do. My fondest hope is that maybe some day I can be a little closer to you all.

Jettie and I got home all right. No trouble on the road. We aren't too wealthy, but happy. She gave me five dollars on the first and told me to reach the first of February with it. I am doing pretty well with it. The only luxury I am allowing myself is the cigars that Ed sent me for Christmas. I never knew what it was to be able to smoke three cigars after supper. If I ever get rich I'm going to have all of them I want if it takes a box a day.

Jettie is working a lot on her hook rug and on her speech. She is going to have to read a paper on the outstanding women of 1938 at a meeting of a women's club. She's all in a stew. I helped her write it a little, but she doesn't want anyone to know that. Miss Jeffries, I have asked around a little and will let you know of the deal we spoke of. I don't know whether anything will come of it or not. I will write you in a few days when something pans out. Thanks to Ginny and Ray for making our Christmas such a swell one. And thanks to you all for the Christmas presents. You're a swell lot.

Lots of love,

Joe

I haven't heard anything definite from my friend in Alabama. I have a notion that the deal will not pan out.

724 - 13th Street.
Bowling Green, Ky.
Jan. 17, 1939.

My dears:

So pleased to get the Robin that I am sending it on the day it arrived. We have had very little cold weather, and only one small snow this winter that melted the same day, rain today and a few large flakes of snow.

Ray has gone to a Chamber of Commerce Banquet, the bank furnishing the tickets. The bank has been pretty nice to him, a bonus then a nice little raise the first and was made Asst. Cashier, but we haven't had time to feel prosperous yet, applying all the bonus on our house and paying all the bills with the first salary check.

We had one grand Christmas, and wish it could be the same every year with Ruby and Eleanor added to the group. Christmas day was a great day with all the boys here and their families, the part I enjoyed the most was the fireside with Ed and Joanna, hot chocolate and Jettes cookies. After Brown's children left it was so quiet. I enjoyed them, but add our two to them they are a rowdy bunch. I didn't enjoy the leave taking as

much as Brown did with the children running in and out in the rain tagging each other, and I just opened the door in time to save Vivian from being wallowed in a mud puddle by her affectionate cousin Sam, and Jim Ed said "It's not fair to talk" and Mary Evelyn frowned and looked up at me and said in such a cute haughty manner, "It's all right for you to stay all night and talk 'cause' you live here, but it's not all right for us." Finally when Brown got good and ready and Ray stopped telling his old pool jokes he never runs out of they pulled out.

I enjoyed Jettie during Xmas and believe she is fast becoming my favorite sister, and I do think she deserves a medal for discovering that it was fumes from the hot water coils that was knocking me out; or I might be dead by now. As a matter of record I am going to relate how I felt so if any of you ever have the same feeling check the gas. The spells came on by rapid heart beats, drumming in the ears, dizziness, then weakness just before passing or crumpling up. I was unconscious three times, found in the dining room on the floor by one neighbor and on my bed room floor by the other, and the Doctor and Ray here once before I came to. I always woke up vomiting, both the boys were vomiting one night when we had

and terrible sick headaches for two days following.

Tank heating for two hours, but I thought they were sick on tangerines as they had stuffed them steadily all afternoon. Brother ^{Lewie} ~~enjoys~~ ^{enjoys} teasing me about going through the clinic and taking so much medicine when it was gas, but the medicine was not wasted since I have no more back ache or nervous spells, but Uncle Ray couldn't understand why I fainted and wrote me several times to describe them every time they occurred.

Jettie I think I should warn you that Ray still don't think much of your chair and when I told him it would be worth twenty-five dollars when you finished a needlepoint, he said if anybody offered him fifteen dollars he sure was going to sell it and send you your ten and give Joe the five. He had a lot to say about my feeding you light when our grocery bill for December was five dollars less than the month before, but I reminded him we had three hens given up, one fryer on two hens which would help out anybody's grocery bill. Ray never complains of my feeding him light but he wants his company to fare better. Next Christmas if you come ^{Joe} I intend to see that we have some ham. I did feel mean feeding Joe so much chicken when he don't like it. I had forgotten he didn't like it.

Jetty don't count too much on our coming out this summer, because with Eleanor in New York and the world's fair, I will want to save my pennies for a trip there for a few days. Ray don't want to go to New York ever again but the vacation this year is mine, and what I would like would be to go just about the time Eleanor is ready to come home, meet Ruby there and bring them both home with me. Eleanor how about selecting a room with double bed to accommodate your visitors. Sam is saving his money for a trip to Texas and he could visit you a week before your school is out and bring you home with him. He wants to start for Texas the day school is out, and bring you on home with him. Ruby how does going to New York to bring Eleanor home suit you. Miss Jeffries ^{and} might come on the train, and all four of us could come back in Ruby's car. Eleanor what are you doing with your car while in school? Sam beginning now to save my dimes for the world's fair, and we can visit Joe when he is some place we have never been.

Love to every blasted one of you and
Good night. Sam sleeps Ra.

Jan. 26 1939

Dear Robins:

The bird hopped around so fast that I was almost afraid to touch it. I'll rush it on to Eleanor - so she'll have something else to do before she leaves.

I reckon will be seeing her in little old New York. There's nothing that makes me as mad as for someone to say I ought to go to New York. This plan looks like one I might do. I'll go to New York with Gin provided she will go home the way I want to. This is the plan - Virginia will come here a while before my school is out. Then we'll go ~~one~~ and stay maybe two days in the city. On the way home we'll drive along the coast to Williamsburg Va. and see that restored city. We'll go as far So. as we can with Ele because she will have to be getting down there for the hard summer work. Gin ought to plan to be away from home about three weeks. We have a place

to stay with Marie and Mildred. Don't let's get tied up with any of their plans - or we'll never get away. The rest of the trip will be so much more interesting. I wish Miss Jeffries could go with us. Could you make it? It would be fun to have all the sisters-in-laws too. Can we do it?

We've have the worst winter I've seen. For two weeks now - it has snowed every day. Look out along the Ohio for the big thaw. The temperature has not been so bad. Only once it was zero.

In one of our worst storms some of us went to Pittsburg to hear Marion Anderson sing. On the way I realized that we were putting ourselves out considerably to hear a negro. But she was away and alone anything I've ever heard. Don't miss her if you can help it. She is yellow and under thirty. I'd no way to tell about her spirituals. Nothing is like them. I was transported.

Odille has been right sick. When she went out after having had flu she fell and hurt her back. If it doesn't get better she may have to go to her doctor in Fla. Florida would be awfully good for her. Even the sight of the sun would help us all. The snow really is beautiful to look at and the children love it above everything.

Love
Ruby

Feb 7, '39

Johnson Hall
Box 199
Columbia University
411 West 116th Street
New York City.

Dear Folks:

I hoped that the Robin would get to Statesboro before I left and sure enough it made record time. I kept it over to find out just what I was going to do. Mr Pittman had to wire and he only heard Saturday morning.

Columbia School of Library Service docked my undergraduate work thirty hours. I am now a special student and will have to get a Masters Degree from some Liberal Arts College before I can get the Masters in Library Science.

That's the limit - people who have a Ph. D. and want to teach have to take courses in a teachers College and those from Teachers Colleges have to take more courses to enter professional schools. I wish I could sit under the cork tree with Fredman and smell the flowers. Peabody would have taken my credits at par but Dr Pittman would not let me go there.

I am duly registered (special - unclassified) and start classes Thursday. From the looks of some of the professors and professoresses this four months will be a long winter's night with only a few moonlit occasions. I believe I'm

equal to it and I intend
to see part of New York City.

The trip up was very
nice and I was not so very
tired - there was a grand
rush at the end.

Yesterday afternoon
I explored this section
of little ole New York and
climbed upon a wall and
looked into Morningside
Park to see how dark and
dangerous it looked.

Along with dormitory
information about laundry
alarm clocks, typewriters,
radios and such was the
lost notice -

"All residents of Johnson Hall
are warned not to enter
Morningside Park either
alone or in groups

weather by day or night.

The park is not policed.

Grave consequences may result for any resident who disregards this warning.

If I come up missing or minus a pocket book,

someday you will know that curiosity got the cat.

Johnson Hall is just across the street from Morningside Park but the park doesn't even look interesting. I

learned that Harlem is just on the other side.

Imagine ~~a~~ Yankees being afraid of niggers!

I live next door to the President of Columbia. His house faces Morningside Park.

I am living in state-
maid service and all.

My bed is made for me
every morning - don't be
afraid I'll get soft, I
have "Library Service" on
my hands! The first after-
noon I was here the maid
told me I could go to the
basement and select the
draperies I wanted for my
room and I was much
surprised to find that
she - the maid - did not
approve of my selection.
She wanted me to have
more flowers. I am located
on the sixth floor and on
opposite side from Morning
park.

It snowed last
night - the first I've
seen for eight years.

I feel rather alone in the big city but Ray like will soon find my way around. I expect to take a double-decker buss and ride up Fifth Avenue tomorrow, when I become a little more sure of myself, I will take to the tunnels and see the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

I hope that every last one of you will come up while I am here. It will be the blind leading the blind but we'll all enjoy it.

I will finish my work about the 6th of June.

and will have to be back
in Stateboro as soon
as possible.

I am expected to take
charge of the library for
12 weeks in the summer.
It is the hardest
time but every thing
will be better now that
we have a new building

Ruby's idea of a trip
in June is very, very
good. Let's keep it in
mind.

Love to all

Eleanor

March 5, 1939

Dear Children;

If I wait to get a pen it will be six hours later.

The robin was awfully good, Eleanor writes better letters in New York than in Co. We'll miss her letters terribly if she wanders out on Morning Side Dr. They wouldn't have to argue with me. The truth is, that I'd like to investigate that park.

I'm really sorry that Ginnie made the stupid statement about not going to New York. I'd worked up a pretty high interest. I'll be glad to change any of my plans. Is the time too long? You can't possibly spend that much money. The railroad rates are greatly reduced. I think I'll go on anyway and take one of those between-sessions courses. I'll be glad to reconsider. If I come home I'm going to try to trade Sim out of the Ray Place.

Ed's plans to buy the place are exciting. I only saw it for five minutes but I know Ed and Joanna can do wonders with it. Think of not having to move. The location is splendid and the house plan too is good. Then it's right slap on my way home. Ed seems more like himself. The appointment of Joe to the umbrella job is clever. Maybe Joe can Chamberlain it.

I like his ideas about not going to war. Patrick Henry or what not - there is no excuse for war. Ed, you stop teaching boys that it is grand and glorious to fight. We should stop and look at the war scare with your eyes open, before we get ourselves into such a frenzied state of mind that we are dangerous. It amazes me that the German's can say exactly the same things about us that we say about them and that we are both right. Joe is right about fighting. I hope he can do what he feels like.

One thing I resent and that is ^{his} crack about my handwriting. I not only teach the art in the Elementary school but also in the college. What I want to know is - Is mine really as bad as Joe's? If it is I'm going begin practicing what I preach.

We're going through another political purge. If I'm saved it will be because I'm so small a fry. Most of us would like to move to Germany where things are really simple. I've made up my mind that if I do leave I'll spend some time with all of you and exert my self to be as agreeable as possible. The danger is my getting fired is not so great as that this school will be closed. Of course that can't happen suddenly. They do practice fancy politics in this state.

Last week I was in Cleveland attending the N.E.A. I sat right behind Eleanor's president but couldn't think

who he was until he had gone. I
met and talked to the president of Com-
merce Tex. He thinks Joe is grand.
Glenn Kendall asked about Ed. Saw
Dr. Grise but he was too far away to
speak to. I mistook Miss Scoville for
some one else which offended her.
The 'mistakee' should have been of-
fended. You don't care do you Miss Tell-
ries? She's not your best friend. Saw
many people from Peabody. It was
cold but pleasant.

I wish you all would send me
some pictures of yourselves and
children.

Love
Pruhy

Sunday March 11, 1939

Box 199
Johnson Hall
411 W 116th Street
New York City

Dears:

The Robin is getting to be the most prompt ever. Every once in a while I'll think "It's about time for the Robin to get here" and in about three days here it is. That's business. I hope you all enjoy the letters as much as I do and that will keep them rushed up.

I am very ashamed of keeping it from Wednesday until Sunday. I have planned every night to write my letter but always something happened. I'll try not to keep it so long next time. I have thought every time how nice for Joe if I could get it to him for the weekend so that he could have more time to enjoy the letters.

Wednesday morning I went to Montclair to see the library there- they not only expect you to spend all your time in the library but any time you have off, they expect you to visit libraries. I went to Lashmont Saturday and Montclair Wednesday. It was so cold Wednesday that pains shot up my legs through the soles of my shoes. I never wanted paper in my shoes so bad in my life. I walked about six block down Broadway and I never was so uncomfortable in my life. I have found that no matter which way you are walking on Broadway the wind blows in your face. I tried it out that afternoon.

We are having something of a blizzard now. A little ole puny snow is trying to stay on the ground but a cold rain keeps freezing on top of it. All the trees are covered in ice. By morning they will be loaded beyond reason. I perked up and sloshed over to Riverside church this morning. This is the third time I have been over there but Dr. Fosdick did not preach this morning. The church is very beautiful and the sermons are always excellent. The weather kept me in this afternoon and I took a nap. A girl came in and stayed three hours and I was afraid I wouldn't get the Robin off today. They all seem so discouraged and want to talk by the hour about getting a job. One was in last night and stayed hours. There are dozens of girls in the hall who want jobs so badly. They are getting masters and some are Ph. D's. There are too many Ph D's being ground out now. They say that many of the departments are tightening down on the German requirements to get rid of some of the candidates. Someone said twelve candidates took examinations the other day and eight of them made flat failures. A girl who eats at our table is expecting to get a PH.D. in June. She is about twenty-six and has had no experience, but she wants a job in a college. I am afraid she will be more discouraged later in the spring.

I didn't get my letter back so don't know where I left off last time but it was pretty early in the game though. It would take hours to tell all I saw in China Town. I went with a tour and every thing was interesting. We got in town just when the dragon dance was in progress. The Chinese were celebrating New Year. We went to an Opera but I had seen one before and we could not understand a word, of course. I am going back sometime soon.

I took the boat across to the Statue of Liberty but did not go up to the crown. I got to the neckline of her dress and got so feeling fainty and as there were about two hundred more steps to climb, I dropped by the wayside. She is an interesting lady. While we were waiting for

boat to come back, the Queen Mary came by. She is a peach. I visited the acquairium the same day and I wished for all the children because they would have enjoyed the fishes and the seals so. While I was watching the seals play around, one of them jumped right up into my face and barked. I jumped back and every body around laughed. I could have spent an intire day there. That same day I walked fourty-two blocks up Broadway. All passed Wall Street and Trinity Church, and many other interesting places.

Another day I went into The Little Church around the Corner. The paster there is named Ray. I didn't round him up to see if his great-grand father's name was Nicholas, William or Joseph. The church is most interesting and I expect to go back sometime and take more time.

I have been to two broadcastings. One was a spelling match. They give any number of tickets here at Johnson. I heard a lecture by Veiky Baum, another by Pearl Buck and Friday night A Mr. Montique, a Canadaian mountie, gave a lecture on Eskimoss. I could Tell Sam, Joe W., Billy and Jim Ed a lot about them that would be interesting.

There is another chapter to Morningside park. The other day I was in town and rushed into the Subway at Times Squire and got the wrong train. I came out right in the midst of Harlem. The conductor said I'd have to go back to 96th street and get another train. It was just about six o'clock and I was afraid I would miss dinner so I decided to walk the six blocks to Morningside park and then go around (about ten blocks). I could see Johnson way up on the otherside. When I got to the entrance of the park, there were two policemen standing there. I aske-d them how long they were going to be there and they said 'quite a while' so I asked them to keep an eye on me until I got up to Johnson and they laughed and said the park was well policed all the time, but that they would see that I got to the top. I will never do that again because there were dozens of steps straight up and when I got ot the top I could'n eat any dinner anyway. Every thing must be pretty well policed because any time I look out my window I see a policeman walking by. I always pass one when I come from the library at night.

I am sorry Virginia has decided not to come to New York, but there is quite a time until June. I can see these unusual buildings from the hall window. The fair is going to be interesting and since I did not get to the Chicago fair, I am looking forward to going to this one. I hope someone will come. I'm looking for Ruby before fair time. As for my going to B.G. between this and summer school- I am due in Statesboro the next day after I leave here and will be on the job for eleven weeks.

Joe is not the only one with a different car. I traded before I left Statesboro. Mine is not new either but is in very good condition and is a coupe. I really didn't want a small car but this is to please Virginia. She was always ashamed of the old Pontiac- its size I think. The other one is a Pontiac. Tan and 1937. I think I got a good bargain.

Ed's house sounds grand. I don't know when I was so glad of anything. I have not seen this place but I am sure it is good. I am getting very anxious to see you all.

I'm almost sure that there will be no use for Ruby to try to get the old Ray palce, because Jim expects to keep it as long as he lives.

Miss Jefferies, I'm sure this letter will "go against the grain" a great many times because I do not have a dictionary. I would look up a few of the words but Ruth Bolton has not sent my dictioanry and I hate to buy a new one.

Love to everybody.

Eleanor

"Ginia, Jettie has finished the rug she was working on Christmas and is now nearly half through with another one.

NORTH TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

DENTON, TEXAS



DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

J. W. PENDER

S. B. McALISTER

J. M. RAY

Saturday Evening, 3/18/39

Dear Jacks:

I don't give a hoot whether you like my penmanship or not — Rudy ups and says my handwriting is worse than hers. I never have criticized her handwriting, but rather her penchant for ending every long word in a dash. Instead of writing out the word "beginning" she would write "beg—" and that ain't no word at all but simply material for a guessing contest. Couple that with the fact that she omitted all prepositions and half the auxiliary participles and you have room for protest in anybody's league. This hand of mine isn't elegant, but it is legible. I won't fuss at Rudy, though, because she does fine when she prints.

Jettie jumped me today and told me I had kept the Robin for three days. I didn't believe it until she proved it to me. I haven't any excuse. I could have written in the last three days, but I was awfully busy this week. We have a rule here that when a teacher leaves town, even on business, he must get someone to hold his classes. The three other men in my department have been gone 37 and on all week — one day I taught from 8 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon. But one of these days I'm going to take a vacation for myself and let them make my classes for three or four days.

Sin, your letter this time was a whiz. I don't know when I've read another one as good. You spoke my idea about staying at home. What all of us gadders need is a little more sitting and soaking. I know as well as anything that Jettie will have me going somewhere at the end of the summer, but I'm going to do what I can to stay at home. You folks in Kentucky are about (over)

fed up with us for a few months anyhow. Jim, if you are going to stay at home, why can't Ray and Sam come to Texas? And if Ray can't come, let Sam come. I think he would like it for a month at least. He ought to come before school is out here in ^{late} August, because there is a lot more to interest him while things are under way. He and Ray would really enjoy a two or three weeks' stay.

El. your letter was a dandy, too. I was nearly set up with curiosity as to how you were liking the big city, you being the only one of us who has ever taken up quarters in the Metropolis. From all I've seen of it, it can stay there and I'll stay here. Jettie wants one of those stickers with Riverside Church on it. You can pull the one off of your letter & stick it on to the next one. We were tempted to take it off of this one except that nobody has seen it. Jettie's brother in San Francisco is trying to get her to come to their fair, but we won't go. We have been touring some lately in our new car. We went one weekend to visit Jettie's brother in Corsicana (about 100 miles south) and then a week later we went with her brother who lives in Dallas to visit her youngest brother who is in the army at Fort Sill, Oklahoma (about 175 miles away). Had quite a good time - drove to the top of Mt. Scott and viewed the country for miles. Also went to see the place where they hold the Easter Pageant in Medicine Park. The Easter Pageant is an American version of the Passion Play held at Oberammergau in Germany. About 150,000 people attended the Easter Pageant last year. About 25 miles up in the hills from Lawton, Oklahoma.

Ed, let me recommend a book for you to read. It is the House that Hitler Built by Stephen Roberts. It will be in the City Library if all the Jews don't have it out reading it. The news about the young ones is always good. Tell me what you know about Brown's flock, because you're the only one who has contact there.

Thanks for buying the sawtooth goblets, Ruby. I'll send the money for them on the first. I am enclosing the paper showing the package addressed to Jim at my box number. Our conscientious postmaster was having nervous prostrations as to who should get it.

You're a swell bunch of folks. My proudest moments are when I can take your picture out and show the company my brothers and sisters. I have it framed and hanging on my wall. I'm sorry I held up the Robin 3 days. Don't anybody else do it. Love to you all

Joe.

Dear Ones;

Sunday afternoon
March 26, 1939

I will start at the bottom of each letter and work according to ages. Ruley here's the picture you asked for taken just about a year ago now in front of the church when we entertained the Missionary Society. I have just finished a scrap-book of the conference, and this was one of the pictures I didn't use. I held the Polim for Auntie to read and the only comments she made were that Ed's was right about fighting. She thinks Patrick Henry was grand and glorious when he said "Give me Liberty or give me death", and she is glad Ed has bought a place, and Eleanor was brought up just right, she goes to church

wherever she is. Yes, Ruby, I think it would be time well spent if you practiced penmanship in your spare time. Not that mine is in any way good, but then I don't teach it. The truth is you couldn't round up any other six and get worse specimens of penmanship than these six Rays.

I still don't want to go to New York. There are so many other places I would rather go, and Ray and the boys are planning a camping trip and want me to go along as chief cook and bottle washer, of course. Sam says he will give up the Texas trip since it will cost so much if Daddy will camp on the river two weeks if they go while you are here we could stay at home and drive out every day to take them some food. I don't have any too many comforts at home and am getting old enough to want an easy bed to sleep on and ice cubes in hot weather, and a few other small things to make life easier on weary bones. Auntie has had a severe cold but is better now. She went to Nashville to see Mr. Lew when he was so low from two operations, and took cold from wind blowing in on her. Sam went out there this week-end and Dr. Apin told me at church about seeing him fishing on the creek bank. He said he told him his Auntie was a good woman and Sam said yes he guessed she was because she was a great shouter at church. Sam is in Dr. Apin's class of children he is training to join

The church next Sunday, but
Sam says he don't want to join
there. He will join at prayer
meeting some Wed. night when
there are not many there. We
have made a new rule or have
that they all three have to
go with me to church one
Sunday a month. Last Sunday
Joe Wilson and Sam went with
me. We were on a small pew
to our selves and Mr & Mrs Sampkins
and his wife came in and Mrs.
Patterson whispered to me to give
him plenty of room he paid more
than any body to the church, and
Sam whistled "Mother, we
better give him the whole seat
we don't pay much". He had been
trying to think up excuses to
leave, saying, look, just
look outside how the sun
is shining, and when they stand

up to sing next time I could
just slip out the door and
nobody would miss me". of
course Senjoy church more
without them along. They fidget
so and Joe Wilsons gets more
fun out of writing Holly Hills
name on contributions ^{envelopes} and
putting in collection plate empty,
with just anybody else's name
on it or a hairpin or safety pin
in it. Eleanor, your letters were
interesting both of them since
you have been in New York.
Joe be sure and save them for
the collection. We are having
warm spring weather, but by
the time you read this as usual
it will be colder. We have Easter
ahead, Blackberry, Dogwood and
various other winters. I am
disappointed you can't be here
this summer. Maybe you can.

Well, Jettie you are making better progress on rugs than I am. I only put in mine in last week and have one corner worked. I made a lot of mats and sold to buy some spring clothes, but they didn't help out much after all. I have enough left over to give you all one for a Xmas present. There was always some-thing wrong in colors for those who ordered them.

Joe, honey, I believe the whole Texas trip will finally be called off until some later time when there is a new car in the Harman family and more money for trips. Sam says he will not be disappointed if Daddy will camp on the creep with ^{home} two weeks this summer. Now, here! everybody come on home and visit us. It's a lot easier on our pocketbooks than coming to see you. You all live in such "far away" places. We have 5 double beds and one day bed counting Aunt Nettie's beds and guess I will have them all summer since they are not having any luck selling out.

Ed, I am glad you have a home of your own. Ray says it doesn't pay but it will for you since you are a good carpenter. He has to have everything done even to screen put in if the boy can't. I am planning for the boy to do it this year. We went to see Kentucky, took Josie when she was here for several days. We have a handsome new theatre, but haven't

been since it opened. The
boys have passed on it and
say it is grand and city
like.

The peach and pear
trees in the Scott yard are
in full bloom and I could
enjoy them more if this old
ugly plank fence were down.

Sam is waiting to
take this down to Miss
Jeffries on his skates.

Love to every blasted
one of you and revise all
your plans to spend as
much time at 724-13th St
as possible. This will be
all the vacation I want,

Ta,

2736 Shippen
Louisville, Ky.
April 3, 1939

Dear Folk,

It is with a great amount of regret that I am unable to write much in this organ, but the truth is that I have been working at high speed trying to get the shack in order to have company K.E.A. It is taking up all my spare time and then I don't have enough. I've laid tile in both bathrooms, built a cabinet in one of the bath rooms, painted both rooms, sanded and refinished five rooms of hardwood floors, painted two rooms to say nothing of numerous smaller jobs. This has all been done in the last month.

Everybody is doing all right with the exception of colds. Both Emalie and Babs have had colds.

Well a lot can happen in a few weeks time. Now the umbrella has been supplanted for the big stick. What next?

Joe, I'll try to read the book you suggested when I get time.

Ele, Don't get lost in the big town. Your letter is very interesting, and it illustrates that you can write a long letter when you want to.

Ruby, we'll be looking for you at the earliest possible date to stay with us. We want to see you awfully bad, as well as the rest of you.

W.B. got a job at Bardstown that pays him \$10.00 per month more than he got at Hardinsberg, but is assistant farm agent. He was very unhappy about having to leave Hardinsberg. It was the best for him, I think. I talked to his boss who is with the federal man located here (I know him) and he said just what we all know that that the boy is a hard working man but he has his peculiarities. He said that he likes him very much, that he has never seen a man with a greater supply of energy or who was more interested in his job, but that he wouldn't listen to advice. He told him not to build up a large farm bureau that the state men would get him, but he went on and did it and incurred the enmity of the agri. dept. who got it in for him. He asked W.B. to send him three hundred members, and the next week W.B. sent in 800 and added 200 later. He said that he would talk to W.B. and all the time W.B. would be looking out the window in a vacant stare, and he would say to W.B. "You don't listen to what I am saying", whereupon, W.B. would reply, "Oh yes, I understand", and go on and do just what he was planning to do while he was talking to him. Once Kilgore sent him some registration cards that were red in color, W.B. sent them back saying that he wanted blue cards. Kilgore said he had cards to suit him printed and more expense. Kilgore said that he thought that it was best for W.B. that he left Hardingberg.

They were to move to Bardstown about the first of the month, but I've not heard from them. They selected a house the rent of which was \$25.00 per month. that is \$10.00 more than they were paying at Hardinsberg. I am sure the boy is in pretty tough straits, but I can't help him now with all the expense I've been subjected to lately. I never dreamed of the amount of red tape fees, deposits, etc. necessary in the transfer of a piece of property. The payments are most attractive as compared to rent for they are \$25.32 per month. I believe that after a year or two I can get well at that. Since we have been in this berg, I've paid over \$1800.00 rent. We could have owned a third of a house for that.

Back to the subject of W.B., He plans to stay there the remainder of this year. I'm wondering if he will cooperate with the county agent. He has never been able to before with any degree of satisfaction. It is to be hoped that he has learned a valuable lesson.

I said that I was not going to write a long letter, but I put the boys to work in my class and dashed off this chat.

Love,

Ed

LOUISVILLE MALE HIGH SCHOOL

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

W. S. MILBURN, PRINCIPAL

April 139

Dear Folks,

The Robin was somewhat short of news, or wit this time, but it was interesting to know that everybody clicked in getting the "Missal" on its way. That's something. Rubie, I think we would rather have the Robin delayed a couple of days and have you tell about your trip to N.Y. Is Ele holding up under the strain? Has she everything under control? From the tenor of your Notes (Ele's too) one could suspect that you both had one "hail" of a time and still had a slight hangover. Anyway we're waiting to hear. What's this I read about everybody remaining in his own backyard during the summer? Is that quite according to Hoyle? I don't know yet what I am going to do this summer. May stay here and work on the "shack." Va, we'd like to see you and your family up in these parts anytime. Why don't you get Auntie to write in the Robin?

Easter Sunday we went down to the Masons and left early Sunday to go by Bardstown to see Will B. we arrived there a few minutes ~~later~~ after they had returned from our house. We talked until dark, and when we got ready to go home, found our lights on the buggy had gone on the blink. I tried to locate a mechanic that knew something about ignition but could not locate one. Brown & I looked for two hours and finally gave up. we stayed all night. They had moved only a short time before and were not straightened up, but they had all the beds up. We sat up until about 11:30 discussing the war situation. Will B. thinks he will have to go, ha, ha. He said he wouldn't have to be drafted, but felt obligated. Of course, he's an Irishman and will have be restrained. He's well read on the matter and is very much worked up over it all. He may feel differently now, though, that it has leaked out that Chamberlain was not acting in good faith when he pretend^d to be so shocked over Czechoslovakia as well as Austria, and that he personally

was financially interested in German Armaments and that British banks were financing German rearmament. That, of course, throws new light on the situation. I said before the Munich Conference that Chamberlain was doublecrossing the British Nation. He has Nazi beliefs in all probability. England would do well to give him the gate. No nation is going to trust Chamberlain in the light of past ~~ex~~ experience. I got off the subject slightly.

Will B is working out of Lexington and assisting the Co agent. He is doing 4H work. The prospect is everything but bright. In the first place, this Co agent, knowing him, would not take Brown except on a weekly basis. He could dismiss him any time he chose. He is not one of Brown's friends. I met him, and I sized him up as a flagrant illustration of a "damned fool." Brown had told me nothing about him and we met him by accident when we were looking for a mechanic, and Brown introduced me to him. He shook hand and before he said anything he looked me up and then down with an expression of you poor devil it's your pleasure to meet me. It made me sore, and if I hadn't thought it would have affected Brown, I would have told him to go to hell on the spot. He is ^{I think} one of the fellows in the state who is out to clip Brown's feathers. Brown acted a nut when he was in Hardinsburg by each year sending out to each Co agent in the state a copy of his Annual report. All the Co agents know him. ^{ENVY his work} I believe the state department ^{AGH} wants to get rid of Will B. and has purposely put him in a place they know will be hard for him. He says, though, that he is determined to get along with the old devil, he didn't use that word, that is my characterization. He may do it. Will B. has plenty of sense once he is snapped out of stupor. He talked more freely than I have seen him for years. He seemed to have less worrying him than usual. Usually when one talks to him he says only "yes or no" and not always that. Martha seems more disturbed than W.B. The kids seemed to like Bardotown; All but Alice. She had a friend she was grieving over, a girl in her class. Alice & Vivian are just about grown.

LOUISVILLE MALE HIGH SCHOOL

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

W. S. MILBURN, PRINCIPAL

April 29, 1939

Martha says they are a big help. They are ~~are~~ awfully sweet. Martha turned over the dish washing to them and they did a nice job.

They have much more room there than ~~Hardinberg~~. If Brown is able to click there, they should make ^{it}, but under the co. agent that he has I would be able to get on two weeks.

W.B. has applied for a job in 12 states, Tenn. so. Ca., Cal., Ill., Ohio, and others. I sincerely hope he gets something soon, for don't be surprised if he is let out at Bardstown and if he is, I doubt if he could get a job in Ky with the department. There is little doubt that W.B. has done more work than he was supposed to do rather than too little. He is not the kind of man that will serve a certain click to their ^{best} interest. He is too honest for them and has too keen a sense of justice. Then too, he had his fault of ignoring those above him. His habit along this line probably started the click out to get him. Anyway, there are a few men in the department that are unscrupulous.

Jo, Barbara Ann, and Emilie are getting on nicely and of course, I think they just about right. Emilie is talking a lot, and she would tickle a dog the way she says some things. She is a great hand to dress up in Bob's clothes. The other day Jo, Emilie and I were upstairs. After a while we missed Emilie. I went downstairs and found she had gone out the back door. She ^{was} just ready to start ^{out on a} concrete alley at the back of house. She had on a pair of Jo's old shoes one of Bob's dresses one of Jo's old discarded jackets that almost covered the long dress, also one of Bob's old hats. She had had on a pair of Bob's pants but they were so loose they

had fallen off. When I found her, she had on
no pants. When she saw me coming, she began
yelling "pantées" "pantées". She was very much offended
in not being permitted to parade up the alley.
She and Babs play dress up by the hour. She and
Babs get along perfectly. But I think it is only because
Babs worships Emilie, and too Babs assumes somewhat the
8a of Emilie.

LOUISVILLE MALE HIGH SCHOOL

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

W. S. MILBURN, PRINCIPAL

April 139

Dear Folks,

The Robin was somewhat short of news, or wit this time, but it was interesting to know that everybody clicked in getting the "Missal" on its way. That's something. Ruben, I think we would rather have the Robin delayed a couple of days and have you tell about your trip to N.Y. Is Elsie holding up under the strain? Has she everything under control? From the tenor of your Notes (Elsie's too) one could suspect that you both had one "hail" of a time and still had a slight hangover. Anyway we're waiting to hear. What's this I read about everybody remaining in his own backyard during the summer? Is that quite according to Hoyle? I don't know yet what I am going to do this summer. May stay here and work on the "shack." Va, we'd like to see you and your family up in these parts anytime. Why don't you get Auntie to write in the Robin?

Easter Sunday we went down to the Masons and left early Sunday to go by Bardstown to see Will B. We arrived there a few minutes ~~later~~ after they had returned from our house. We talked until dark, and when we got ready to go home, found our lights on the buggy had gone on the blink. I tried to locate a mechanic that knew something about ignition but could not locate one. Brown & I looked for two hours and finally gave up. We stayed all night. They had moved only a short time before and were not straightened up, but they had all the beds up. We sat up until about 11:30 discussing the war situation. Will B. thinks he will have to go, ha, ha. He said he wouldn't have to be drafted, but felt obligated. Of course, he's an Irishman and will have to be restrained. He's well read on the matter and is very much worked up over it all. He may feel differently now, though, that it has leaked out that Chamberlain was not acting in good faith when he pretend^d to be so shocked over Czechoslovakia as well as Austria, and that he personally

was financially interested in German Armaments and that British banks were financing German rearmament. That, of course, throws new light on the situation. I said before the Munich Conference that Chamberlain was doublecrossing the British Nation. He has Nazi beliefs in all probability. England would do well to give him the gate. No nation is going to trust Chamberlain in the light of past ~~ex~~ experience. I got off the subject slightly.

Will B is working out of Lexington and assisting the Co agent. He is doing 4H work. The prospect is everything but bright. In the first place, this Co agent, knowing him, would not take Brown except on a weekly basis. He could dismiss him any time he chose. He is not one of Brown's friends. I met him, and I sized him up as a flagrant illustration of a "damned fool." Brown had told me nothing about him and we met him by accident when we were looking for a mechanic, and Brown introduced me to him. He shook hand and before he said anything he looked me up and then down with an expression of you poor devil it's your pleasure to meet me. It made me sore, and if I hadn't thought it would have affected Brown, I would have told him to go to hell on the spot. He is ^{I think} one of the fellows in the state who is out to clip Brown's feathers. Brown acted a nut when he was in Hardinsburg by each year sending out to each Co agent in the state a copy of his Annual report. All the Co agents know him. ^{ENVY his work} I believe the state department ^{AGH} wants to get rid of Will B. and has purposely put him in a place they know will be hard for him. He says, though, that he is determined to get along with the old devil, he didn't use that word, that is my characterization. He may do it. Will B. has plenty of sense once he is snapped out of stupor. He talked more freely than I have seen him for years. He seemed to have less worrying him than usual. Usually when one talks to him he says only "yes or no" and not always that. Martha seems more disturbed than W.B. The kids seemed to like Bardotown; All but Alice. She had a friend she was grieving over, a girl in her class. Alice & Vivian are just about grown.

LOUISVILLE MALE HIGH SCHOOL

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

W. S. MILBURN, PRINCIPAL

April 29, 1939

Martha says they are a big help. They are ~~are~~ awfully sweet. Martha turned over the dish washing to them and they did a nice job.

They have much more room there than ~~Hardinberg~~. If Brown is able to click there, they should make ^{it}, but under the co. agent that he has I would be able to get on two weeks.

W.B. has applied for a job in 12 states, Tenn. so. Ca., Cal., Ill., Ohio, and others. I sincerely hope he gets something soon, for don't be surprised if he is let out at Bardstown and if he is, I doubt if he could get a job in Ky with the department. There is little doubt that W.B. has done more work than he was supposed to do rather than too little. He is not the kind of man that will serve a certain click to their ^{best} interest. He is too honest for them and has too keen a sense of justice. Then too, he had his fault of ignoring those above him. His habit along this line probably started the click out to get him. Anyway, there are a few men in the department that are unscrupulous.

Jo, Barbara Ann, and Emilie are getting on nicely and of course, I think they just about right. Emilie is talking a lot, and she would tickle a dog the way she says some things. She is a great hand to dress up in Bob's clothes. The other day Jo, Emilie and I were upstairs. After a while we missed Emilie. I went downstairs and found she had gone out the back door. She ^{was} just ready to start ^{out on a} concrete alley at the back of house. She had on a pair of Jo's old shoes one of Bob's dresses one of Jo's old discarded jackets that almost covered the long dress, also one of Bob's old hats. She had had on a pair of Bob's pants but they were so loose they

had fallen off. When I found her, she had on
no pants. When she saw me coming, she began
yelling "pantées" "pantées". She was very much offended
in not being permitted to parade up the alley.
She and Babs play dress up by the hour. She and
Babs get along perfectly. But I think it is only because
Babs worships Emilie, and too Babs assumes somewhat the
8a of Emilie.

Dear Roy, Sunday Morning, April, 23.

This is a lovely morning. One big weeping willow is out in full green, one grassy fine and the iris in bloom. Sun bright and warmish breeze brisk and coolish. The increasing speed limit seems to be decreasing the amount of news, history and fiction produced by the authors of this chronicle. Mine is bigger and better productions but keep up the time. This is a day of rapid rhythm.

I did not go to the H. E. D. but went up to the Mason Settlement. Jo Anna and the children were there, Eddie, I missed you. Am I never going to have a real visit with you again. Come down and bring the family. You don't have to rebuild that house in the next six months. Take a day off now and then. I think you are smart to do all these things. I'm proud of you.

I am sorry about the Brown Rays but they have something that none of us

have. That is an eternal cheerfulness
and just that keeps them going. They do
not (The children I mean) feel so bad over it.
Brown and Martha will 'monoground' I don't
imagine they want us to be sorry for them.
Just love them - they do want that. We
have to let people be as they are, you
know though some seem to learn more
from life's lessons than others. Bless
your souls if any one was rich he would
spread it out over the whole tribe wouldn't
he? Well, don't. After all I have always
found a lot of fun in striving.
I am going to Virginia's for dinner
steak and strawberry cream I hear. Yum,
yum. I am very well. Very busy and
happy enough.

Lots of love.

Jeffrey.

excuse the pencil. I can't
find any ink or a fountain
pen with ink in it.

724-13th Street

Sunday 1939

Dears:

I started a letter in answer to
the Robin several days ago, but can't
find it now, and Miss Jeffries has
already written hers and has it all
stamped and waiting for mine. We
had her for dinner today and have
enjoyed her so much.

Auntie spent the day with me
Saturday and we had hot dogs and
strawberry shortcake. Auntie asked
me if several times if she were eating
too much and I reminded her she never
had worried about eating too much but
rather always bragged she ate every bite
she wanted every meal. She is just as
disappointed as I am that we are to have
no company this summer. I told her I
thought it was because I didn't manage
to have better things to eat when they were
here and didn't think up much of a good time
for them and I wouldn't blame any of them
for wanting to go where they could have a
good time.

I have purple and white iris in the living room from my flower beds but have neglected the flowers because the weather has been so cold and bad. Yesterday we had our first April day, and today we have no fire and are sitting here with the door open, Miss Jeffries, Ray and I.

I think I can finish my rug next week. Look in the Kent Hooked Rug Book at the Oberson pattern and is listed in the price list as a \$5.00 value.

Get the snitch you would come home for a visit and bring your rugs. I will let you dress up the front bed room and we will have a rug show.

I am going to Bardstown to the garden show the May 12th to 14th, and expect to see the Will Brown Raps at that time.

The next trip I want is to Louisville to see all the work Ed and Joanna have done on their house. Let me know Ed when your handiwork is ready for inspection.

Well, I am going to be as nice as Ruby and Eleanor and let this note do.
Virginia

May 9, 1939

Dear Children;

This family letter has such dark news that I sort of hate to send it on. And yet - all of us have known so much worse that we are surely prepared to take it. I'm thinking of the time Joe had T.B. at such a tender age. He came out of that by simple good sense. Don't you remember Joe, how you cured yourself and graduated from high school with near honors at the same time? It might have been hard but it doesn't seem so now - at least it doesn't to me - with my accommodating memory. Any way you are pretty good now. So thanks, for the achievement.

And then there was the time Ray was so sick. He conquered that odd look of him. We never can do without him. I benefitted by his ^{illness} ~~blessing~~ since they stayed a while in S.R. That's the longest time I've ever spent with any of the children. Of course I know how

fortunate the other children are. Just the same we're over that. So thanks for the privilege.

Eleanor too, has had her contest with health. I've been more afraid for her than any one else. Hers really lasted so many years. Ever since I can remember she's had blood pressure and pulse all out of proportion to her size. She's better - if I can tell by looking and trying to keep up with her. I also enjoy her confidence and cheerfulness. I wouldn't be surprised if part of it is 'put on'. Mental serenity is unnatural in this age for her station and position in a state financed college. Just the same she appears to know the answers. And thanks for the example.

Somehow I can't remember any one time when Ed has found his existence precarious. He seems to have had a normal steady struggle. I believe he has found the 'good life'. He is worried more with other's troubles than his own. That's bad for him but mighty comforting to those who

need him. I used to be afraid these ~~then~~ toughs in Todd County would shoot him down. They missed him and I hope the anticipated man will. And thanks for the escape.

Brown's state is serious but if I know him, he'll have staunch friends soon who will take up his cause and fight for him. I wish there were something else for him. What else can one do who has agriculture for his God? Is there such a one as a fertilizer demonstrator etc? If it were Eleanor - she could 'take in' washing and laundry. And Virginia could do any thing and everything - rugs - cakes - typing - etc. We were fortunate when Settie found her trouble. Then Ed. of course there would be his carpentry and cabinet making. As for me - I'd have to find a way - but I might do it. Joe, ^{you} would be sure to find a way to the top of the ladder - or maybe the water tank.

Of course none of us could have done
any of this with Auntie and Miss Jeffries
with their all kinds of help - advice - money
food - labor - inspiration - there's no end - and
such a futile way to thank them.

This letter is so damn sentimental I'm
sorry I read it again - because I haven't
time to do another. If any of you decide
to give up your back yard 'settin' I wish
you would come to see me. I'm going to
have the apartment by myself. I'm going
to have the third floor where I am now
all by myself next year.

Love,
Ruby

11
May 13, 1939.
New York City.

Dear Everybody:

Since we are having such a siege of changes in writing, I'll just go back to the old pen. It's much faster and I'm just about the busiest every-two papers to do this weekend and all. Maybe Joe will correct some of the mistakes before he sends it on because I won't have time to read the lines over.

We have one more week of classes - then examinations. My board is paid up until June 8th so I'm expecting to stay on and maybe see a few sights. I've been unable to get to. I'm not sure just when summer school opens in Statesboro but I hope not before the eighth at least.

The examinations "lume" rather formidable since I have not put as much time on the assignments as I should have.

We are not having examinations in three classes but that leaves three of the worse courses. It won't belong now! Government Publications which is the worse course I've ever taken in my life, is scheduled for May 30th, the very last day of school.

Last Saturday afternoon, I went to the fair - "The World of Tomorrow". We got there about three and stayed until after the fireworks at nine-thirty. It certainly is a "World of Tomorrow" and as one person said "I'd rather knock myself off than live in a world like that!" All the buildings are ultra modern and of course show that they are temporary. After you stay awhile it all grows on you, though. The sculpture and paintings are the worse things ever - but then I'm unable to appreciate modern art. I refused point blank to go to the "Hall of Modern Art" because I didn't want to get the headache.

The country "Concessions" were most interesting we got to the British, Swedish, Japanese, Romanian, (that's the way it's spelled on the building) and Turkish buildings. The Swedish

building^{ing} is one of the most interesting³
one ever seen - in kind a Swedish,
minded right now anyway. There is
a large pool in the middle with a
glass fountain.

Almost every thing is glass - fountains,
houses, trees, flowers and hundreds of other
things. Great Britain's building is high
and very interesting - has several floors
and room after room. We just touched
it. The Romanian building was
lined throughout with beautiful marble
and the lights in many cases shown
thru thin marble. There are beautiful
murals every where. The Japanese
is attractively lined with bamboo -
they very wisely do not have things
to sell. All the other buildings do.
China and Germany do not have buildings.
The Italian and French have been
opened since we were there. The
French Pavilion is almost entirely made
of glass and is semicircular. The Italian
Pavilion is rather impressive - something
like Musselene. There is a very large
figure on top of it that everybody

says is liberty for Mussolini but it really is a seated figure of the goddess Roma. The whole building is a combination of classic Rome and modern Italy.

There were growing flowers everywhere. Purple tulips were all up and down the mall. I'll have to go back to one building. U. S. S. R has a huge building topped with a immense statue of a man holding an illuminated star. He is the only statue on the grounds with any clothes on. From almost any place you can see the socialist holding up the star. They put a lot of money in the building - Somebody said that Russia sent the woman, a companion to this one, to San Francisco ^{in 1950} ~~also~~ fair.

The fire works were beautiful. The Lagoon of Nations has dozens of fountains and they are raised and lowered to music. Colored lights are flashed to different parts all during the thirty minutes performance. Every once in a while the skyrockets and such go off. It was all very pretty and inspiring.

We didn't have time to get to the states section. Kentucky

5
does not have a building but
Texas, Penna and Georgia do.

The cost is not so much. we heard
that they charged forty to seventy-
five cents for a hot dog but we
paid forty cents for a reasonable
plate. There is a seventy-five cents
admission charge and we took
the trip around the grounds -
an hour for fifty cents. We paid
for none of the sights we saw.
All the state, nation and Commercial
buildings are free. Of course you could
pay a dollar to see the fox dance
and the penguin dance! You could
stay out there six or eight days
and see all the free exhibits. If
any of you can possibly make
it, try to come because it is
very, very good. Of course, I've never
seen a World's Fair before, I understand
everything in town is sky-high.

We will just have to not bother
too much about Brown and his
family. They will come out alright.

and it is just one of those sitbacks that have to come along now and then.

Don't anybody worry about my health because I'm as well as I can be. I hope I've learned when to stop so that I'll never give out again. I feel good all the time and hardly ever have the headache now. I just don't think about the situation in Georgia. I know we will get paid if there is any money collected - Some of the public school teachers are the ones to pity. They have not been paid since January and most of them get fifty and sixty dollars a month - at that. Sometimes I marvel at the selfishness of some politicians.

I am sure I don't know where this "own backyard" got started. I do not have a backyard and I know I'm not going to stay in the Perrys. I see too much of them in the winter, spring and fall. I'm working until the middle of August but after that I'm heading for B. B. I really wanted to go to California for a very little while.

7

but, of course, gave up the idea rather early. I have planned for about four years to go out this summer but I didn't know all this would happen. Anyway I'll be tired enough not to want to go.

We are having real spring everywhere. The trees are all out and the vris are almost ready to bloom. I am looking forward to seeing them in full bloom. Everybody says they are marvellous.

Several weeks ago I went out to Botanical Gardens in Bronx Park and the flowers were beautiful. They were hot-house plants, of course. I wish all the children could have seen the animals and birds.

Part of the fleet is parked on the Hudson. About every other night do fancy signaling with search light. The big beams of light move around over the sky in a most interesting way. I think they will stay until the twenty-fifth of May.

Atthea passed all her examinations
and finished with her presentation
of her project. I have not seen her
since Tuesday and don't know how
she got along, but she did famously
I'm sure.

I am enjoying Gertrude Mason, the
little love of her. I stopped just now
to take Ed's description of Emile's
dressingup over for her to hear but
she was not at home. She lives just
two blocks from Johnson's ^{and is a perpetual} student. She is taking
a course in Chinese Language.

My new hat is a screamer. It
is a pill box and makes me feel like
two for one. I hope I get used to it
before I go back to Georgia.

I rather hate to go back to Georgia.
but I guess it's best right now. Some
day I'll get something else, if not
better.

If I had time, I could write volumes
about everything but when I go back
there is nothing to write about.

Love to everybody

Elle

Sure, enough, El. Come to see us.
How about bringing Ray's boys, or
maybe some of
Brown's? Jettie is insisting
that you come. you've never
been to see us.

NORTH TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

DENTON, TEXAS



May 17, 1939

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

J. W. PENDER
S.B. McALISTER
J. M. RAY

Dear Folks:

Here's that handwriting again. Sorry. I meant to write the Robin at school today, but got home without it, and now we don't have a table for my typewriter, so I have to do it this way. You may not like my handwriting, Ed, but at any rate it is legible. And anyway, I don't care whether you like it or not, you big lug.

We have moved to a new house. It is about two miles from school. The house is lovely. It has a large bedroom and a small one, living room, dinette, kitchen, bath and long hall. It is the nicest rent apartment we have seen in Denton. The furniture is perfect. It is so nice that Jettie says she won't want any better when she gets some of her own. Jettie says tell you it is period furniture and you'll have to come and see it. Sure enough, why don't some of you come to see us this summer? We'll be here right up until September, and then on. El, why don't you come & bring some of the Harwans? It's only 800 miles from B.D.

Our house is so far from school that I can't walk, and so I have bought a bicycle and am riding it to school. The kids at school are razzing me considerably. Some of these old blokes on the faculty can ride a bike and get away with it, but a guy in my position has got to have a dang good sense of humor. I nearly ran over the President on the campus yesterday.

He yelled at me and said he guessed my motorcycle was what was wearing out the drive I was on. I started on the bike to improve my figure, but somebody suggested that old Mr. Swenson in the Geography Dept rode one for years, and it didn't help his figure. I am now reduced to the explanation first, that I like to ride a bike and, second, that my wife won't let me have the car to come to school in. Anyway it's fun, and I enjoy being kidded about it. One of the boys told me one of the girl students offered him a bribe to let the air out of my tires. I announced in one of my advanced classes that if anybody ever let the air out of my tires, I would lose my faith in human nature.

Jettie finished her rug, Virginia, and now that we have moved into the new house it is carpeted all over and no place to put the rugs. We'll bring them to Ky next time we come. The last one is really a beauty. She has canned eight quarts of strawberry preserves, too, and does she think she's smart.

I have been selected to write the high school debate bulletin for Texas debaters next year. Remember the one I did on the one-house legislature? This one is on socialized medicine. I've got to finish it by July first, and it has really got me hopping. I'll send you all copies when it comes out.

We're awfully sorry to hear about Brown's come down. Things like that don't come purely from excess of virtue, though, Ed. Brown has a way of going against the grain with people. And farmers are the most difficult people in the world to manage. I don't see that there is anything we can all do now. They're much better on their own. The kids will always have much more than you all ever did, and you did all right. I never knew what it was to want, but you went through it all. Keep us all informed, Ed. If the worst comes, we'll all help out. But I refuse to worry. Anybody who is as good a man and as earnest & hardworking as old Heimie is not going on W.P.A.

Love to all, Joe

Thursday Morning.

Dear "Rays of Light,"

Here is the older Robin Chasing the new one. Hurry it along so it will catch up. but keep the new and nervous one moving.

"Eddie" I surely want to see you all" So arrange to come down. I ^{can} ~~will~~ be here every Sunday without any inconvenience and every Saturday except Nov. third or fourth whenever it is. Then I'm due to "orate" at a meeting in Henderson. Will come home that night so tell me when you will come.

Ruby, I know your apartment is attractive, wish I could step in and see it, Betty (Aunt) is getting on fine. Helping Mrs. Yates keep Loorders. The seem crazy about each other. The Boyds seem better

Bob and Ann went up for a week
end and seemed to enjoy it. Bob is
in Louisville now about a job. Thanks
he "has it by the tail" to quote Charles Dudley
Warner.

Eleanor, dear, I know the "pumping"
makes you beautiful. Do you remem-
ber a day when you were about —
thus high and had curls about — thus long,
(as sweet and pretty as a big doll) you told
me that "it is a sin to pump, the preacher
said so." I tried without much suc-
cess to explain what he meant. You
fixed your big blue eyes on me with
that "set behind one's button" air you
still assume at times and said,
"But, M'Jeffries you are not a preacher."
You were sweet and ^{an} individual.

Joe, I think Seatty is fine, don't ru-
in him by letting him feel that
he is the object of worship,

He seems perfect now, I am anxious to see him.

I am getting this off so good bye.
all the love I could possibly feel
or express to you every one.

Truly
Missouri.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF KENTUCKY

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE, COOPERATING

EXTENSION SERVICE

5/23/39
Bardonia, Ky

Dear Sir

I believe you are indubitably alarmed. I got more pay to come here. The State office thought it best to leave Breckinridge. They would put me in any county which was agreeable to me.

I am in the Federal Extension service. The State office puts me where they need me if I agree to go.

The man here is very nice to me. Martha & the children are delighted with every body. Alice graduated from the 8th grade last winter. Five of us joined the Baptist church the second week we were here. No member of the family would move

DIRECTORS

W. G. ROYALTY
T. L. HARNED
CHAS. HART
C. O. BRENT
PRESTON HAGAN

Arizona County Health Bureau

224 Federal Building

Hardinsburg, Ky.

DIRECTORS

M. F. HARNED
C. S. COOMES
W. H. BARLOW
BEN H. WEAVER
T. J. MILLER

back to Hardinsburg now.
I am assigned here until the first
of the year when they will give me
a county where desired opening
occurs. County agents terms
end July first & Jan first.
When any county agent wishes to
leave his county before his term
is up he goes on state payroll
and assists another county agent
until a job opens up he wants.
~~As~~ ~~most~~ ~~all~~ county agents have been
assistants.

Lafayette for a long time
and interest. But don't worry every
thing on the square
I have gained 10 pounds since I
came over here. That looks like
I am doing good. Good night.
your loving Dad Brown

July 4, 1939

Dear Children;

This is the beginning of the summer tour of the robin. I think Da should hold it until Eleanor and I get there in August. I'll be leaving here in about three weeks. There's so much to say that I don't know where to begin.

Chronologically I should begin with my trip home. I arrived in Ed's new house on Decoration day. They've done wonders with the house - painting - papering - tiling - and polishing. Of course they are worn out - but apparently happy. It must be fun to fix up a house. What I enjoyed as much as anything else - this visit - was the children. We really have something there. I was over at Brown's about four times. Those children are awfully nice. Martha is the prize mother. Brown's job seems very satisfactory as a temporary one. I think he thought a change might

come in August. They are very comfortable and very happy. The house is only two doors from a free swimming pool - with two all-time life guards. In that Catholic town theirs is a small family. We ate picnic lunches in their back yard. I took Auntie, Aunt Kate and Aunt Hettie to visit both Brown and Ed.

Aunt Kate goes to visit Mary Catherine often in Louisville. Mary is at Hazelwood and Jim afraid is pretty bad. They all felt better now that she can take air - even though she must take through her stomach. She was allowed to get so bad because she lost no weight - or very little - and coughed no blood. She is beginning to feel more at home but does have to get mail. Hazelwood Sanatorium will reach her. I went to see her twice. She looked much better the second time. as quiet

My visit was very quiet - as I can have anything. We did very little antiquing. I did get the yen for a farm. We tried to see about the Gilbert farm which is for sale. Jim awfully interested but cannot pay what he

is asking. His price is about seven thousand. There is a loan on it for about four thousand. I would like to get it for about five thousand. Ray was going to talk turkey to him - but Caim has written me that Mr. Gilbert won't listen to reason. I'm going back in August to see about it. Couldn't we have him on that place?

Before I go home however. Mabel Blyth and I are going to the New York World's Fair by way of Canada. This is the last time I'm going to Canada! What do you want? I remember that you - Jettie - want a gravey boat and some Babel. We're going to have a right nice trip. From here to Toronto - on to Ottawa - Montreal - and perhaps Quebec. I'll be able to get China and linens. I expect to be in Bowling Green by August 15th.

My most exciting news - I've left until the last for - perhaps - an obvious reason. Jack is going to marry a Miss Fitzgerald - sometime this fall. It was a surprise to me - although I've known for sometime that things are

over between us. I really don't feel very
badly about it. It feels good - calm and
peaceful - to be fresh out of boy friends.
The rest of my life is going to be smooth
and easy without even the ripple of struggle.

A man in town is building the loveliest
garage apartment which I want. I wouldn't
think of living alone in a garage apartment
south of the Mason-Dixon line but here
it would be alright. The Blythes will give
me a dog - for watching purpose. There's
not an apartment in town that can touch
it for comfort and attractiveness. There are
two bedrooms - so I might rent one of
them. The price is reasonable for S.P.
I have thought that Odille will not be here
this winter but have not heard. My plans
are not complete.

I'm awfully glad I'm a part of this
family and that we have Miss Jeffries.

love

Pinky

My work - this summer - is
t hard. I can swim
d do three afternoon
week and golf
o.

July 19, 1939

Dear folks,

Ed didn't have a letter in this time so I thought Ruby had failed to put it in. I've been waiting to get it. Here comes word from Aunt that the scalaway just didn't have a letter to put in.

Surely the littles can get around one more time! We begin Monday on our last fine week ^{but} ~~students~~ ^{teachers} we are not expecting many ~~teachers~~. Georgia politics are just as bad as possible. There is no money allocated for Education for next year! Some superintendents say they will refuse to open in September until something is done. Some people think the teachers should organize and

strike. Many people think that, like New York, it is all a lick at President Roosevelt. The W. P. A. strike was just too foolish. I think the president handled that very well. I feel sorry for some of the poor "its" tho;

"Little Polly" the old new care is holding up very well indeed. The first time that I have little room has made two of the teachers want to ride with me. One of them is fat and I don't know about both of them. I'll let it work out itself.

You should see my hair! It is frayed at the ends (seems like to the roots to me) I hope it will grow out before school is out.

My work is much easier than it has ever been but not so interesting.

The horses got displayed yesterday in a hobby show.

I wish we all could at least see each other during the summer,
Love Eleanor

NORTH TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

DENTON, TEXAS



July 21, 1939

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

J. W. PENDER
S. B. McALISTER
J. M. RAY

Dearest folks:

I received your missives this morning. This is one of the rare times when the Robin has staggered in in the middle of the summer. He is a much better traveler in cooler weather. Here is a thought about what we should do immediately with the Robin. Here it is the latter part of July, and Ruby has suggested that Virginia hold it until she and Eleanor come to Kentucky. My suggestion is this: Ruby and ~~and~~ El should write letters in Bowling Green and send the thing on to Ed. Then, Ed, you send it back to me by the first of September, and I will start it on its regular round by the middle of September. What I am trying to avoid is Ruby's taking the thing back to Pennsylvania with her and stalling until October or November before she gets it off the first time. She is always too busy to start it off, whereas the Robin is the most urgent business I have usually. So Ed, you send the thing to me just as soon as you get it this time.

Jettie and I have about decided that we are going to Colorado for a vacation. It is cool in the mountains and we have a friend up there who has a camp and has invited us to come. We can go there because it is not so far as Kentucky and we are planning to get a couple here to go along with us and share expenses. If the trip to Colorado falls through, we may come on to Kentucky. We have to come anyway Christmas, so you folks will get too much of us coming twice a year from now on. My meeting is in Washington, D. C., and I am going to farm Jettie out at Bowling Green for a week or so as I did last Christmas.

I am so glad that Brown's troubles have been ironed out at least to some extent. I am sure they will pull through all right, but of course we all stand ready to see them through if they don't. And I'm glad about Jack's marrying the Miss Fitzgerald, too. He's a good fellow and lots of fun as a companion, but he is a little too screwy to make our Ruby happy. There ain't nobody good enough for her anyway, so far as that goes, but I've always had a feeling that she got more grief than pleasure out of him. If there is anybody she wants, I want him for her, but if she doesn't want Jack, I'm glad.

Jettie and I are about to decide that we cannot have any children of our own, and so we are thinking of adopting a family. One baby in the fall and then as many more later on as we can afford. We have already been approved by two baby camps, so we can more or less take our pick. We have thought the matter out

NORTH TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

DENTON, TEXAS



DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

J. W. PENDER
S. B. McALISTER
J. M. RAY

- 2 -

from all angles. We want children and we are fixed well enough to give them some of the good things of life. Next to having children of our own, we would like to have some little nieces and nephews to live with us. But their ~~mamas~~ mamas and papas want to keep their own children, no matter how many they have. So we are going to do the third best thing and get a baby and bring it up the way we think it should be brought up; and then if that works out, we will get another and maybe another.

It has been awfully hot this summer. We have just finished up the first term of the summer school and are starting on the second. We have some old friends here teaching for the summer, and are enjoying them immensely. We have ~~picked~~ picnicked out on Lake Dallas a half dozen times. I have been playing golf nearly every day and am as brown as a berry, or whatever it is that gets brown -- maybe it's leather. Jettie has been making a baby blanket, and tells her friends playfully that she is "expecting."

Lots of love,

Joe.

Virginia, please send me a card as soon as you get this telling me what Brown's address is. I think it is Bardstown, but I have an old summer suit that I don't wear any longer and that he could use to work in. I would like to know as soon as possible, so I can send the thing and let him get the use of it some this summer before it is too cold to wear it.

J.

Jettie made us about ten pints of peach preserves yesterday, and they sure are good. And she is so proud of herself, she thinks she is just about the smartest little lady who ever stirred a Kettle. She's going to try some pear preserves, but hates to because she knows she can't compete with Auntie's.

Bowling Green, Ky.
724-13th Street
July 31, 1939

My dears:

Who would have the nerve to expect me, the busiest woman in town to have time to write in the Robin. I will tell you something of what I have to do the next two weeks, cook, keep house wash and iron for this family of three, finish a big seven foot rug for Ruby, manage the making of slip covers for overstuffed furniture - Ladies Parlor at church, show the men how to clean the rugs with Old English cleaner, spend one day at church canning beans to feed our five hundred preachers and laymen in September, head the Committee for taking a treat and devotional to County Poor House Sunday, make a dress and nightgown I have cut out, etc, since I am tired of mentioning things. But I will get it all done and on schedule time too.

Ray's vacation is over and he went back to work today, the last day of the month and a hard one to break in on. We spent one week out at Rotary Camp. It was Sam's choice of what he wanted to do for the summer and we worked harder than ever in our lives, carrying wood and water and cooking on a majestic Range stove. Sam invited Betty and Billy Hawks, Jeane and Linda Hill and they had two canoes and stayed on the creek until we called them in to eat, and I enjoyed rowing up and down creek in the cool. It was hot and as soon I got through cooking they took me for a row to cool off. I cooked a double batch of cookies every day and they were always all eaten no matter how bad. Sam caught one fish, an eel, and shot a frog. I cooked the frog legs and fish. Ray went to town bought seven pounds fish and invited a crowd from the bank, and vowed he caught every one on the trot line they caught the one one. We had to carry everything down just such a hill as the one we went with Ruby to get a drop leaf table.

Friday Sept. 1, 1939.

Dear "Ray Children",

Ruby has the Robin up at Virginia
as so I'm only writing to say I
enjoy it more each time and hope
we can get in going around soon
and keep it going.

I am quite well - staying at home
to rest and get myself "in shape"
I'm taking on fatness and I won't
keep it.

Please accept this note and when the
w^ather cools I'll write a volume.

Love to you every one.

Elizabeth

October 5, 1939

Dear Folks:

I think it is about time to start the Robin on its rounds and I am writing this letter to do it. I seem to recall having done this before a couple of months ago, but the Robin has dééd somewhere and I want to revive it. I am sending this to Virginia, and it goes from there to Miss Jeffries to Ed, to Ruby, to El, and back to me. Let's get it going and get it around. You folks don't realize that we have not heard from anybody but Ruby since July. Please let's get it around.

Now I do not want any of you people to be sore^{at} Jettie and me for not coming to Kentucky during the holidays. You know we love you all, but we had a long visit last summer and again last Christmas, and it is a long and expensive trip. You will get fed up with us and we with you if we come twice a year and clutter up your sitting room all day long for a week or two. If we come once a year you ought to not hate us. Another consideration about this August trip is that Jettie has been miserable with hay fever in both our August trips to Kentucky, whereas it does not start until October if we stay here--so naturally she enjoys the Christmas trip more.

But the most important thing that has happened to us in a long time is Scotty. You will know from the announcements the general facts about him. I am sending a photograph of him alone. We have not had any good pictures taken, and I think we won't until he can sit up. He is really a first rate fellow and is smarter than the whole pack of us. We got him at a foundling home in Dallas. We had planned on it for a long time but had not made any definite arrangements at all. However half a dozen of our good friends here have babies or have had them recently and we have been swamped with all of the necessary supplies. I don't know whether any of you folks disapprove of adopting children but for that matter I don't care. If you don't like it you can go climb a tree. Of course we would like to have children of our own but it looks as if we are not going to, but any way this is just as good. If anybody should ever tell you that people do not think as much of adopted children as they do their own you call him a liar

for me. About every third minute Jettie is saying something about how we will do this or that when we take Scotty to Kentucky Christmas. She is really pointing toward the visit, and if you don't like the y ungster you will stand a good chance of getting clawed to pieces.

Everything else around here is moving along nicely. Jettie's thirteen year old nephew has come to live with us. He is starting to high school and is the sort of youngster who wants to go to college, so we know he will get along all right. He is awfully good to help around the house.

We had a very pleasant stay in Colorado . We went about sixty miles beyond Denver and spent ten or twelve days at the cabin of a friend. We drove through with another couple from Denton who bought most of the fuel, and thus the trip did not cost us much. The cabin was up in the mountains, about 9000 feet up. All we did was to eat, sleep, climb mountains, read, and pitch horse shoes.

I am sure there are a lot of things I have forgotten but I will try to tell them next time. Let's kick the Robin on around.

Lots of love,

Oct 11 '39

All Dears

I'm all in sack-
cloth and ashes! Ruby
sent this. Robin several
days ago (almost weeks).
We have been so busy
getting started that I've
had very little time
for much out side.
(The letters will get to
Joe for his birthday).
Most of the extra time
(of which there is little)
is spent on curling
this hair, in my

old age, I'm just turning
to prumping. My friends
fuss so if I don't do
something to the wool.
that have to do something.

A hard rain kept me
from being disgraced the
reception (student) night.
I was wearing Ruby's
evening dress and it
has no sign of a back.
You all know how tight
it was, too, I couldn't
eat any supper that
night. The rain came
just before the big
crowd got to my punch
table. Some of the faculty
still talk about how few
coaches I had on.

Martha wrote that they had been transferred again. I guess you all got cards. They all seemed to be getting along very well when Miss Jeffries and I were there in September.

We had a good visit with Ed and Joanna too.

Our youngest niece has a super-modesty complex. She is one darling and as cute as a little red wagon.

Welcome to Scott! I'm just itching to see him and hear about all his cute tricks. Rub and I will feel very left out

with no child to tell
about. All y you will
have to remember to
tell more and more
about the eleven grand
children, (what you can
hear from the six ^{Brown} Karp)

I've got to go to
supper and to work
tonight.

Next time I'll try
to write more

Love

Eleanor

Sunday Evening, Oct. 15, 1939

Dear "Ray Children",
I think it is good to get the "Robin" started,
you are the dynamo behind the works,
you are a "Sweet Kid". I'm glad you
love "Scatty" and hope I'll get to see
him Christmas. I know he is lots of
fun as well as work.

Virginia just left. We are going to Hartford
tomorrow to attend Mrs. Mark's funeral. Her
death is a tragedy. we do not even know how
she managed to ignite her clothes.

Everything here is so dry, the creeks are low
and water supply in the country dangerously
low. The forecast promises rain this week.

Edward, why don't "you all" come down and
why don't you drop us a line any
way? Hope you are all well and happy
I know you are busy.

I suppose you know that Brown has

been transferred to Harrodsburg. The same
salary I understood. Mother says they like
it better there. The school seems to be better.
Ruby, you might write me a line some
time - Couldn't you. Hope the apart-
ment is all fixed up. I know it
is attractive.

I am feeling fine, do not have a
heavy class program. I am going down
in West Kentucky next week end, on
some school business, and will be at
Henderson on Saturday Nov. 4, for a meeting.
I appear on the program so must fish
out a little of my eloquence sometime
soon and begin to try to think up some-
thing to me write it. I must stop and
get my beauty sleep. Lots of love to you
every one.
M'Jeffries.

Bowling, Green Ky
Sunday 22, 1939
724-13th St.

Dear Folks:

This Scotty is the cutest little scraper Sever saw, and I can't wait until Xmas when they bring him home. Seems like he is getting enough to eat and Jettie is developing him fast. The first picture I thought he was too thin but these last ones would take the prize in a baby contest, and he is a beautiful baby. Eleanor you and Puley had better come home Xmas instead of going to Florida and see this new addition to the family

I have had more company this fall than during the summer. As soon as the preachers left Katie Wilson came and she and Josie have been here a lot shopping and having suits made out of Mr. Wilson's suits. Charles White the seamstress makes lovely suits for 4 50 and Mr. Wilson buys such expensive suits they are worth making over since he never tires of them, ^{wears} out but tires of them. I am next on the list, since all four of the Harmons have one.

I have a new outfit, moss green dress with gold chain and balls black perky hat, black gloves and bag black cloth shoes you left, Eleanor! I cleaned them and they look fine and feel so much better than new ones. Wish I could get you to break all my shoes. Ray insisted on this new outfit for he says we are going to Louisville to visit the Ed Rays before the weather gets bad when I finish two small rugs and mats I am making for them, which should have been finished a month ago if I could have found time. Last week I didn't stay home but one day; went to Mary Marks mother's funeral, and it was a very sweet funeral and Mary held up bravely, stood at the side door viewing all the flowers, and really

did appreciate your spray, Ruby,
Red roses and white daisies
Miss Jeffries had pink roses
and glads. I wouldn't have
taken the liberty of ordering them
but since her death was such
a tragedy, knew you would
want to.

Alice Hogan,
Ray's Aunt, Wailes mother
died and I spent one day there
one day at Hosters House getting
the cooking lesson for the
Homemakers and one day with
Mt Victor homemakers giving
the lesson, and coming home
I said I intended to shoot the
first person who suggested that
I leave home for one day next
week. The boys are playing
football like mad and Ray
is fine, enjoying life more
than he ever has.

Love
Va,

Sunday Nov. 5

Dear Children:

the permanent. Society is cruel. With I had braids again.

I've held both issues of the robin. The second one was improved by Ed's 'put in' - even if he didn't tell the 'truth and nothing but the truth'. I shall tell Scotty his daddy never did go about with his pants down. That scrapper is a cute one. I-too-find him irresistable - and so do all my friends. They stop me on the street to ask if I've any more pictures of him. With out any luck at all the rascal seems to have what it takes to succeed. And I think he's lucky in choice of parents. Why dont you enter that 'taking of' picture in some contest? Or, apply for a football scholarship. I'd like awfully well to see him Xmas, but I can hardly leave when I go to Kentucky.

I want to stay here four or five more years - if possible - and then leave for good. We never know what will happen here. The president was convicted of misfeasance and nonfeasance. They are

One reason I don't get lonely is that I have three real tickets. The Blyths - The Sheehy and Altheas. very trifling charges so he has applied for a new trial which may be granted Tuesday. He and his family are noticeably disturbed but things seem to be going on the same. One source of our trouble is undoubtedly Mrs Emma Guttery Miller. She is putting up a hard fight for Dr. Miller, but since she is a DEMOCRAT!?! He would be better off without her. When I am asked where my sympathies are I don't hesitate to say with the present administration. When I'm not asked I say nothing. It is surprising how little is being said among faculties. The fight really seems to be the local population against Mrs Emma G. It is too bad that this pee-wee town has anything to say - but THEY do. They gave the land to the state. Some of us think Wilda should have stayed in Europe where things are more quiet.

She is here with much pro-English feeling. Her stay in Germany was interesting but she felt she learned only what they wanted her to. Her sight seeing was conducted by the government. She asked to see an elementary school and a concentration camp. They kept putting her off for the former and told her the latter no longer existed. She was

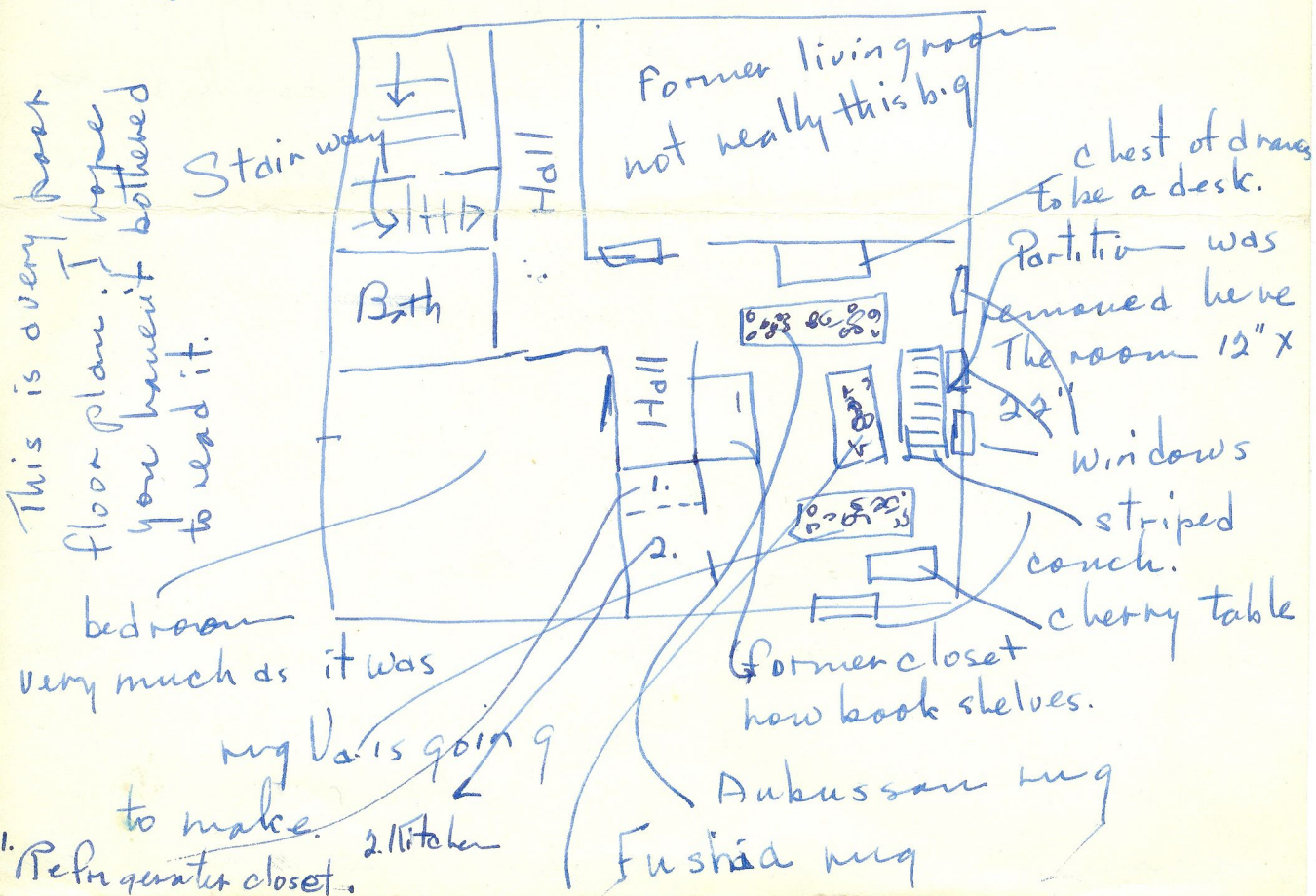
free to go where she pleased in England. Here - she is very much in demand by clubs and is very interesting.

I hardly know where to begin about my apartment. I like it very much - or shall when it's finished. Most of my friends tell me it looks like a picture. I hope they mean a pretty one. The rugs-a-la-la are its chief glory. The drapes are hung on traverse rods. They are heavy figured cotton - same colored flowers as those in rugs. I found an old moth eaten davenport in a second hand store for \$12. - and had it covered with striped material. The stripes are maroon and cream. The colors are very good with my cherry and maple furniture. The floor is painted a soft grayish green. The walls are yellow on three sides and green on the other - which makes right good conversation. All woodwork is white.

Last Thursday I had a birthday party for Althea. The remarks about my decoration were many and clever. They accuse me here - of doing anything for conversational purposes. The striped couch and the green wall produced plenty. Eight people had plenty of room

at the table Ed. It is one of my favorite pieces of furniture. Hope you like your other one as well. This couch was in life Oct. 30. They must have got the idea from me. Mine is not that period. There's no wood across the back. I really like everything I have. And I'm not lonely. Can't stay home half as much as I want to. I think - however - I shall take up smoking. The only drawback is that I can't decide what brand to smoke. These new Pall Malls seem to be a kind of bargain.

Atten took the Alley apartment I mentioned last summer. The Hilliard remodeled this one for me. Her's is lovely and she has enjoyed fixing it no end.



November 22, 1939

Dear Everybody:

On this Thanksgiving eve, I can count many "things" for which I am truly thankful.

Each one of you count as a very special blessing to me.

We all should be thankful that we are well and reasonably happy, and above all that we are citizens of these United States. The news from Europe is more discouraging each day ~~and~~, if reports are correct, there will soon be a revolution in Germany and something will have to happen. Hitler seems to be scared for his hide and I hope he has a reason to be.

Our homecoming is at Thonbagerins each year and we are expecting a big crowd. The librarians are expected to work on Thursday morning but we have time off Friday afternoon and Saturday (that is more than we have had before.)

There is a ball game tomorrow afternoon and a banquet at night.

I am planning to go to Young Harris, Friday and come back Sunday. They say the mountains are not at all pretty now but the Dorons asked me to go with them. We will have a good time although it is a pretty good distance.

Tuesday. I reviewed "Let the Record Speak" by Dorothy Thompson for the A. A. U. W. (a token organization) The book is most interesting and

I hope you all will get a chance
to read it or at least to look
at ~~it~~ ^{the book}. Of course Dorothy Thompson
is very "radical" and hot headed.
^{out,} The book is interesting ~~now~~ the-
less and every body would profit
by reading the chapter on the
German-
Bund.

I am sure that we are all
glad that Scott has come to
live among us. How did those
pictures happen to get this far!
It was rather unlike little Joe
to rise up about our taking
the presents of Scott. Most boys
think what they do is O.K. and
expect the others to nod approval.
I can hardly wait to see the boy.
I am sure he is a lot of pleasure
to his parents. I expect him

carry a set of bonjos around with him
I am glad that he is different
from all of us in that he has
dark eyes and promises of dark
hair.

I'm going to take time out
next Robin and really write
something.

Love to you all and my heart
is full of thankfulness.

Sincerely,

Eleanor

NORTH TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

DENTON, TEXAS



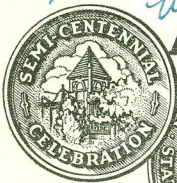
DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

J. W. PENDER
S. B. McALISTER
J. M. RAY
T. B. HYDER

Monday, Nov. 27.

Dear Folks:
I am meeting Dad Penders classes this morning. He has gone to Waco for the meeting of the Scottish Rite Masons - or maybe it's Royal Arch - if there is a difference. He is the Grand High Priest of the outfit and takes off a week every year for the convention. His students are making oral reports, so if I run in something about party platforms, etc., please consider the handicaps I am working under.

The Robin was especially good this month. It is always better when it comes in after you have about decided that your folks don't love you any more. And then, too, it had two letters from nearly every one. I am sorry I held the Robin up two days. We are doing fine at our house, but two things are hard to believe about new babies - something you couldn't convince me of before. One is that you don't get time to squeeze when you have babies. I had no idea they took your whole time. And the other thing is, I don't know when we are going to get our bills paid. I have been in debt for months, and I thought I would get out by Thanksgiving, but the further we go along the way, the deeper we go in. As a matter of fact we have about decided that we had better not come to Kentucky at Christmas. Jettie and I both want to come so badly we can taste it. Jettie is dying to show off her baby and to get her chair fixed up. But if we come we would be in the hole for another two months, and then next summer I can't teach for one six weeks, and we'll have to save money or starve. Then, too, Ruby and Eleanor won't be there; it's not good to take a baby on a long trip in winter time. The change of climate and bad weather might get the fellows down. And it would be a lot of trouble taking care of him. We'll promise faithfully to come next summer. - Matter of fact, we may come and live off of you for two months.



-1940



Jettie has about decided that we are going to build a house. We already have the plans and estimates and everything, but I can't make up my mind. Of course it would all have to be on the credit and we would be loaded down with debts for the next twenty-five years. Then, maybe we can sell the old worn-out house for a down payment on another one and start over. It will all

NORTH TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
NORTH TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

DENTON, TEXAS



DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

J. W. PENDER
S. B. MCALISTER
J. M. RAY
T. B. HYDER

have to be done on the credit of course — lot, furniture & all. And the house has to be big enough to hold our family as planned. The way we are planning our family now, we are going to adopt two or three more children — thus we can get a lot of room in our house but very little quality. We've got the plan I want, though, and I think it can all be financed by F.H.A.

Scotty is doing first rate. He now weighs 19 pounds — weighed that on his first seven-months date. He sleeps from 6 P.M. until four A.M. and then yells & squeals & gurgles until six A.M. when I get up and feed him & let Jettie lie there on her bottom until after seven. Then at night I'm so pestered out that I start my tangle with the sand man about nine o'clock, and Jettie feeds him at ten while I lie on my bottom. He has one tooth — has had it for two weeks, but nary a sign of another. He's getting spoiled, but he doesn't get everything he wants. He has a jumper that he sits in and bounces by the hour. He sits up in the bed on his tummy, but when we set him in the floor he sometimes falls and bumps his head.

I'd better close off for this time. You are a swell bunch of folks. It hurts a lot not to get to show off my little boy to you all while he is still a baby.

Lots of love from both of us.

Joe
Let's get the Robin on around. Please don't any one of you keep the thing more than three days —



Dec 10 1939?

Dear Falke,

although the Rabin came around late it was interesting. Some yohel must have held it a month or so and here Joe apologizes for holding it three days. Bless his heart, he now has the responsibility of a baby which is no small responsibility. At this stage of the game he vows he'll adopt three or four more. whoever collects his letters please file this one for future reference. If he thinks one takes all his time what would four do? The dear boy is in for a complete education concerning child welfare. But you will find the dividends are worth the investment. I honestly believe life would not be worth living without it. One soon falls into the routine of thinking and planning for the little scamps. Then watching their mental and physical growth adds the spice and newness of life. Every day they are new. Every night they with romping and play they fall asleep exhausted. a strange stillness comes over the house. one comes to the bedside of these ^{small} enigmas leans over them and apologizes for all the times through the day that you have lost your temper or had to spank them. you feel their warm breath on your cheek and you resolve you will keep your temper and your tongue only to find next day that your resolution has been broken. you wonder if you are giving them everything they need to grow into strong healthy and upright adults. you linger at their bedside and a thousand fears beset you. you tremble when you realize the great responsibility intrusted to you and wonder if you can swing it. ^{you wonder if this wasn't right when she said I wouldn't} you cast these thoughts aside and busy yourself with something that drowns your fears and thoughts on other subjects. strengthens confidence in yourself. you, lad, are dealing in

know how to raise children

elemental intricacies of life when you shoulder the responsibility of raising a youngster: you are glad of the responsibility when you realize that someone went through the same anxious anticipations in your behalf to give you life and an education. This is not a lecture for Joe's benefit; it is merely a record of some very personal thoughts.

Joe and the youngsters are well and happy. Babes enjoys her school work. Lucie enjoys investigating everything in the house. Her favorite trick is pouring out buttons from a pint jar. She strews them all over the room. Last night I undertook to make her put them back in the jar before she went to bed. She promptly announced that she wasn't "going to do it". No matter what explanation or threats were made the same reply was forthcoming. She was so pert about it I gave her a hard little tap. Through her tears she stood by her former statement and reaffirmed her stand. This happened over and over until I would have been glad of a loop hole thru which to crawl without loss of prestige. The loop hole did not appear. In desperation I repeated the task this time successful. I felt like a criminal and had to love her after she had put the last button in the jar.

The Will B's have been here this afternoon and had supper with us. We enjoyed their visit hugely. The kids are sweet. We all had a romp after supper and everybody had a big time. The two younger boys about played themselves out. Will B called into play muscles no doubt not used for years. Jo and Martha sat in the kitchen and talked.

Excuse the paper, I'm short on paper,
Joe excuse Will B's near sighted statement I've
considered the source and let it go, he, he.
A Merry Christmas to you All!!! Ed

1.
Take on one of those Saturdays - known in the small teacher's college town of Slippery Rock as Demonstration Day - three weary teachers walked the block and a half to their comfortable second floor apartment. There they would escape the critical eyes of teachers principals and superintendents of the nearby cities who had come to observe the work done in the Campus Training School. Odille was the first to leave the building and then Ruby. When Althea arrived Odille was on the studio couch and Ruby was "sitting" with her shoes off before the fire.

"Boy!" said Althea, throwing her coat across a chair and piling stacks of papers on the desk. "Do I love my work?" "I'm whipped" said Odille, "Pum whipped." She had a Georgia

draw. "Today, put in Ruby I have contributed
 and contributed abundantly ^{of my self} to the cause of ed-
 ucation. The children according to my standards
 behaved well. They reacted to this new social
 situation with poise and judgement. But
 I suspected that those narrow-minded head
 shaking superintendents in the back of the
 room were saying something like this:-
 "That second grade teacher can't discipline.
 How much salary does she get? Big waste of
 the tax payers money." "They say she is in with the
 Democrats."

"Some of those visiting teachers" ^{"laughed"} said Althea,
 "are intelligent." They staid to ask me how children
 learn to read."

"I too had some intelligent questions asked

Here are some of the — ?

"Why does that little boy use crutches? What makes that one girl so big?" And what are you going to do about Jimmie Caster's dirty hands? What ^{are you} ~~am I~~ going to do tomorrow? Will you give ~~them~~ ^{me} some samples of sex work?

Do ^{you} like big windows and movable desks?

Odille said, "I could see that Dr. Wagenhorst was happy. This crowd of about four hundred was ~~hungering~~ and ~~thirsting~~ for ideas. He rubbed his hands and admitted that they had come to the right place." "Why," she continued "do we stew so?"

"Because," answered Althea, "we live narrow crimped lives. We should have a husband and six children — and have to face real problems? Then we would have no time

4
to think of our own backs and feet."

"Let's see," suggested Odille if there is any food in the house."

"While we are eating" ordered Althea, "You girls have to help me with this composite philosophy statement. What do we think the practices of progressive education should be? What is our point of view concerning the problems of life?"

"What's wrong with this butter?", asked Odille. "It has something green on it."

"Poison," answered Althea. "Good! I'm in the mood for just that."

"I spilled some harmless cake coloring on it," said Ruby.

"Let's rest," said Odille, "and then finish

'Our Philosophy'."

"No! Not yet," Ruby objected, "We must order the groceries for the Sunday night supper in honor of Althea's highbrow friend."

"It was a sad day for us," said Odette "when Althea went to Columbia and met those big wigs, Whose coming and what shall we eat?" Not much.

"Well," said Ruby, "They are Dutch, fat and forty and like to eat."

"Let's don't be skimpy," said Althea, Whose coming?"

"All women," said Ruby. "The kindergarten teacher - tall and serene. She's off on her philosophy - trying to teach four year old's how to read. The fourth grade teacher

6
took a Caribbean cruise last summer
and became an authority on all she touched.
She reads almost nothing. Then there is Ruth who
is bored openly by the doings in Slippery Rock. She
does add something to a party. What about these
six grade teachers? Put her in the corner where
she can't argue and argue both right and
wrong sides on any subject. We should
have some of the college faculty. They
are subject matter bound and most of them
look like plush sofas but they should be
at our parties for the scholarly atmosphere
they shed.

"Do you know," said Ruby, sadly, "that
these Sunday night suppers and other pro-
fessional activities have just about busted

up my gorgeous romance. I never have time to see Jack. On Mondays we must go to the P.T.A. That's a fine organization. They do nothing but meet. Or we must go to the Women's Club. They say they tried to get an out of town speaker and that he wrote that he had long since stopped speaking to women's clubs. It seems he prefers a more wide awake group.

"Something should be done," said Allie. To spread divine discontent among those women." "Back to my romance," cried Ruby. On Tuesdays we have that pleasant but strenuous Book and Bridge Club. There is another club with twelve added women. And on Wednesday he has to work on that Republican sheet

which Uncle Jim thinks so little of. On Thursday I'm taking that course in Remedial Reading at the University of Pittsburgh. I must produce some professional growth. And on Fridays we have to get ready for Saturdays. Georgia and Wilda are coming up the steps. Don't let them know why I'm weeping.

"Ruby has just told us," said Althea, "that her romance is on the rocks."

"I've done my part," said Wilda, "Didn't I have him to dinner?"

"Well, I'm going to do something," said George, "He's clever and I like ^{him} and want him in the family."

"Do it soon," pleaded Ruby. "Before this affair chills and freezes. I can hold him if I can

keep him within talking distance. I'm seeking a less strenuous life.

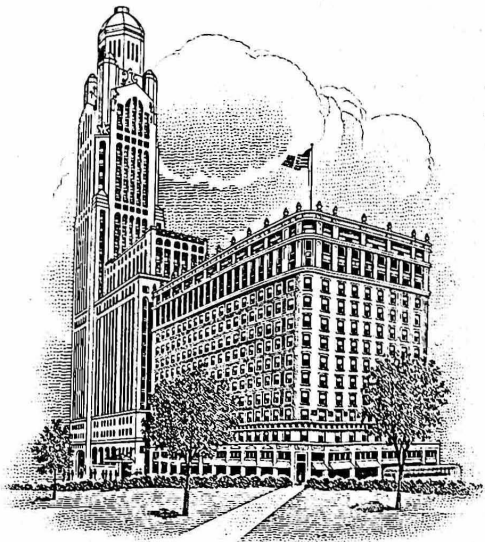
"Life", said Allie archly, "with Jack would be no end simple."

"Well at least", Ruby replied, "I wouldn't have to face being called the 'neck noser' in his last story." If he sells the one he is writing now. I'll have to go to South America. I wish you would do what you can George! And in the mean time I'll write the family letter. Did I ever tell you about my brothers and sisters, Auntie & Miss Jeffries?

"Oh Yes!" Odille put in. We know the all well. I'm going to send the Xmas cards this year.

"Well", said Ruby, "they are like Sears and Roebuck

They never let you down. And they seem to
have found niches where they can live. I believe
they have found 'Devine Discontent' interesting. Would
they be interested in how I spend my time?



AS VIEWED FROM STATE CAPITOL PARK

THE DESHLER HOTEL CO.
LOUIS C. WALLICK, PRESIDENT
ADRIAN L. WALLICK, VICE PRESIDENT



BILTMORE HOTEL, PROVIDENCE, R.I.
UNDER SAME MANAGEMENT

DESHLER-WALLICK HOTEL

1000 ROOMS

1000 BATHS

JAMES H. MICHOS
RESIDENT MANAGER

COLUMBUS, OHIO

The Sweetest Girl in the World:

I know you would have felt better if I had written you a letter to Virginia's house, but I would have beaten it there. The next best thing is to write you a letter and bring it to you. I am waiting for Weldon Cooper in my room. He and I are going to eat supper together.

It seems that when I meet reverses, my thoughts always return to you. You are the only thing I have that I can depend on utterly; I know that whatever may come you are always there to bolster me up and convince me that after

#2



AS VIEWED FROM STATE CAPITOL PARK

THE DESHLER HOTEL CO.
LOUIS C. WALLICK, PRESIDENT
ADRIAN L. WALLICK, VICE PRESIDENT



BUTMORE HOTEL, PROVIDENCE, R.I.
UNDER SAME MANAGEMENT

**DESHLER-WALLICK
HOTEL**

1000 ROOMS

1000 BATHS

JAMES H. MICHOS
RESIDENT MANAGER

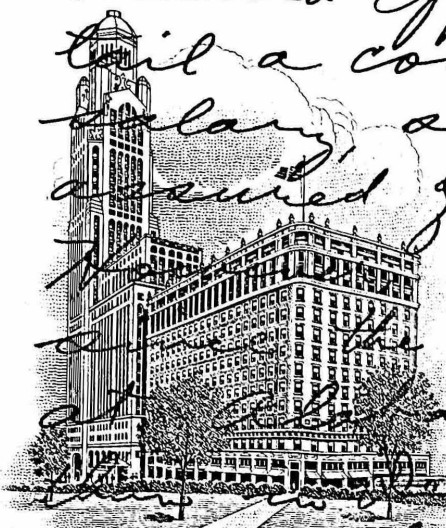
COLUMBUS, OHIO

all there is no one anywhere who
is more important than I am
I think I must always have some
one who thinks I am good and
is willing to face the world and
let it know.

Seriously, I haven't met any
reverses here. It is simply that
a man can't plump himself in
the midst of such a gathering of
big shots without being conscious
of his own insignificance. I seek
escape from my own sense of
inferiority. I have met a lot of
big shots. But one can't thrust
himself on them without embarrass-
ment.

I have talked with Roscoe
Martin. He has mentioned a figure
of \$2400, but he says that he feels
doubtful if he could face the criti-
cism of those who would feel
that he would be packing his de-
partment with Texas men. I told
him I would be interested in
the position. Accepting it, if he

m
X



THE DESHLER HOTEL CO.
LOUIS C. WALLICK, PRESIDENT
ADRIAN L. WALLICK, VICE PRESIDENT



BILTMORE HOTEL, PROVIDENCE, R.I.
UNDER SAME MANAGEMENT

DESHLER-WALLICK
HOTEL

1000 ROOMS

1000 BATHS

JAMES H. MICHOS
RESIDENT MANAGER

COLUMBUS, OHIO

should offer it to me, would en-
tail a considerable reduction in
salary, since I am not at all
assured of summer school teaching.
I believe I should accept,
since the chances of advancement
at Alabama are considerably greater
than at Denton. Furthermore, I
would be able to specialize at
Alabama & thus have a much better
chance to go higher. My own inclin-
ation is to tell it all to go to hell
and stay at Denton. There I can
lead a more leisurely and sedentary
life without having to work so
hard. I'm not afraid of work, but
I know that at Alabama I would have
to be a drudge in order to keep pace
with Cooper, who is Roscoe's fair-haired
boy and would have all the preferment.
We would have to live on \$500 per
month for the year-round in order to
have money for the summer. I have
about decided that, come what may, I
will have to do that for the two summers
coming - after this one - anyway - and
take a two-semester visit at some of the
big universities. It must be done.
But enough of that. Truly come in

at 6:45 last night and stayed here in the hotel here. I was with her almost all the time while she was here.

We went to a movie last night & then went shopping in the snow. I have decided to leave because the weather is terrible. I bought you an after-dinner coffee cup & saucer & she a bunch of gifts for the folk at Slippery Rock. She left at 3:50 this afternoon. She's a sweet one - was awfully tickled with her pajamas.

Jartenberry is here. MacConkle, Patterson, Stone of Kansas, Powers & Richrod of Ark., Ewing and Dangerfield (wife) of Oklahoma & Cooper and Martin of Alabama. I have met Rafuse of Williams, Howard of Maryland, Marion of Rutgers, Pipkin of Louisiana and a few others who, I think, will remember me. Met a whole bunch of men from Chicago U. & Illinois U., but can't call their names. Have seen all the Convention show-pieces like Uncle Charlie Beard, Anderson, Salter, Brooks, Ogg, Luski, etc. Also others.

Cooper has called. You're my own sweet darling, and I love you with all my heart.

THE BESHLEER HOTEL CO.
LOUIS C. WALLICK, PRESIDENT
ADRIAN L. WALLICK, VICE PRESIDENT

BILTMORE HOTEL, PROVIDENCE, R.I.
UNDER SAME MANAGEMENT

BESHLEER-WALLICK

1000 ROOMS

HOTEL

1000 BATHS

JAMES H. M. 1905

COLUMBUS, OHIO

AS VIEWED FROM STATE CAPITOL PARK

At School
Friday

Dear Ruby:

Mildred brought you card over
last week. I received the thing
of a lifetime. My dear how perfectly
splendid! only I see how why
can't you spend the time with all
your "widdy" lady! Mildred her
mother and Thomas and I'd love
you to - that is, unless you
specifically want to stay at M's -
if that case, young lady - you'll
have to come out Fri. and go back
for Sat. and come out Sat. eve.
How do you like your order?
We think I call Edna - she was out
but I think she did call later - were
so anxious to see her - couldn't she
come out with you? It's nice to know
she is here and I'd hope we can
see her often. You must be sure to let
us know just when you'll be in N.Y. and
call me immediately. Ruth - 2-5709 R
(over)

1. Sens: light of phob
trial + error?
3. growth in tools

It may be that I have been in town on
Fri. or Sat - or both and if you'll
give me a number I can call and
we can come out together.

Dear little Betty in fine today -
and his brother in - had my eye -
he had a fever yesterday and had
to go back to bed - had started back
to school on wed. after being out
five weeks - don't know just what
the trouble is but it worries me.
Will have a nice visit when you
get here - can't wait to see you
all dear - drop a line
to me - now at once -

Bye for now -
Marie

15 E. Gouverneur Ave
Rutherford

P.S. as usual, I'm crazy - am going to a cock-
tail party next Fri. aft. but I might go in Th. or
on Sat. maybe we can get together -

D. E. HOWELL
STOCK AND DAIRY
Bowling Green

At Auntie's

Dear Ruby:

I got your letter two or three days ago. I couldn't decide whether I wanted to meet you in Louisville, but woke up this morning with my mind made up not to come. I would rather be here and have the house straight and the ice box full for the week so we won't have much to do while you are here. Then when you go back I would rather go back with you as far as Louisville or Bardstown.

I am enclosing a letter from Brown that he wrote in answer to one I wrote him about his job there. I had planned go up and see them, but after reading his letter believe will wait until you go back.

This is Boadley's typewriter I am trying out and can't hit it off as well the first time. He exchanged it for their old radio. Auntie seems to be enjoying the electricity very much and especially her new iron you gave her. I ironed all day, and came out here and finished hers for her.

Mary says come on straight home and be here for commencement. I saw her at the ball game last night. The boys have been out at Grandfathers all week, and Ray and I have been gadding around like courting days, a ball game or picture show every night.

Love,

Virginia.